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04/16/2010 03:11 PM

To Ingrid Hopkins/R3/USEPA/US@EPA

cc

bcc

Subject Benning Generating Station NPDES Permit Metals Letter

Dear Ms. Hopkins,  
Please find attached, a letter of explanation concerning the metals excursions at the Benning Generating Station. You will also receive a copy of this letter by certified mail.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Regards,

Shirley Harmon

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[sharmon@pepcoenergy.com](mailto:sharmon@pepcoenergy.com) PES letter to EPA Hopkins NPDES metals excursion 4-16-2010.pdf



Sent via Electronic Mail and Certified Mail 7003 3110 0000 9187 9311

Return Receipt Requested

April 16, 2010

Ms. Ingrid H. Hopkins  
Water Protection Division (3WP42)  
U.S. EPA - Region III  
1650 Arch Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-3029  
(215) 814-5437  
[hopkins.ingrid@epa.gov](mailto:hopkins.ingrid@epa.gov)

**Re: Benning Generating Station – NPDES Permit No. DC0000094  
Metal excursion at outfall 013**

Dear Ms. Hopkins:

This letter follows up on the April 13, 2010 telephone notification, made on behalf of Pepco Energy Services, Inc. by Mr. Bruce Krepley, acting EHS Manager to report copper, iron, and zinc excursions in a grab sample collected from outfall 013 on March 12, 2010. The NPDES Permit requires a quarterly storm water sample to be collected at this outfall. The facility became aware of the daily maximum excursions upon reviewing the laboratory report on the afternoon of April 12, 2010. Mr. Bruce Krepley made a telephone notification to the U.S.E.P.A. on April 13, 2010 within the 24-hour notification period as required by permit NPDES DC0000094, condition VI.6.

The results are as follows.

Metal	Units	Permit Limit Daily Max.	Results Daily Max.
Copper	mg/L	0.0134	0.055
Iron	mg/L	1	5.7
Zinc	mg/L	0.117	0.53

The incident is under investigation. A definitive explanation has not yet been established however, it is believed that the snowmelt from the record February snow storms (over 32 inches of snow for the month) accompanied by the sand, salt and dirt from plowing and sanding activities at the facility was a contributing factor to the excursions at outfall 013. The majority of storm water from the entire facility flows to outfall 013. Pepco Energy Services, Inc. will continue its investigation for the source of these metals and will take

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*Pepco Energy Services, Inc. is not the same company as Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco), the regulated utility, and prices and services of Pepco Energy Services, Inc. are not set by the Public Service Commission.*